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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/732,791	12/09/2003	Atila Alvandpour	42P16818	6866

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EXAMINER

WELLS, KENNETH B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2816

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SM

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/732,791	<b>Applicant(s)</b> ALVANDPOUR	
	<b>Examiner</b> Kenneth B. Wells	<b>Art Unit</b> 2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/18/05.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-5, 7-13, 16, 21 and 24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 15, 17-20, 22, 23, 25 and 27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 6 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/9/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

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1. Applicant's election of species D (Fig. 8) is acknowledged. Claims 3 and 5, however, are not seen to read on this species (they are directed to Fig. 3) and therefore they are hereby withdrawn by the examiner. An action on the merits for claims 1, 6, 14, 15, 17-20, 22, 23 and 25-27 is set forth below.

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 3, line 6, "213" should be changed to --212--. On page 6, line 20, "a" (first occurrence) should be changed to --an--. On page 6, last line, either "812" or "Fig. 7" is incorrect (because Fig. 7 has no reference numeral 812). Appropriate correction is required.

3. Claims 1, 6, 14, 18, 19, 26 and 27 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 1, line 4, the amendment to change "drain" to --source-- appears to be incorrect (because PFET 802 in instant Fig. 8 has its drain connected to the recited output port, not its source). Note the same problem in the other independent claims. Also in claim 1, line 6, "a" at the beginning of the line should be changed to --an-- for purposes of proper grammar. Note the same problem in the other independent claims. Appropriate correction is required.

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4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by any one of Ho, Lall et al, Hirose and Campbell.

In Ho, note Fig. 5, where the recited "first inverter" reads on the combination of FETs 504 and 506; the recited "pFET" reads on FET 512; the recited "nFET" reads on FET 514; and the recited operation is deemed to be inherent because hysteresis buffers such as that of Ho are known to have such operation, and the claimed structure is fully anticipated.

In Lall et al, note Fig. 3, where the recited "first inverter" reads on the combination of FETs P1 and N1; the recited "pFET" reads on FET P2; the recited "nFET" reads on FET N2; and the recited operation is deemed to be inherent because hysteresis buffers such as that of Lall et al are known to have such operation, and the claimed structure is fully anticipated.

In Hirose, note Fig. 1, where the recited "first inverter" reads on the combination of FETs 3b and 3c; the recited "pFET"

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reads on FET 15a; the recited "nFET" reads on FET 15b; and the recited operation is deemed to be inherent because hysteresis buffers such as that of Hirose are known to have such operation, and the claimed structure is fully anticipated.

In Campbell, note Fig. 7, where the recited "first inverter" reads on the combination of FETs 76 and 81; the recited "pFET" reads on FET 86; the recited "nFET" reads on FET 89; and the recited operation is deemed to be inherent because hysteresis buffers such as that of Campbell are known to have such operation, and the claimed structure is fully anticipated.

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over any one of Ho, Lall et al, Hirose and Campbell.

The use of the hysteresis buffer of each of these references in a computer system having a memory would have been

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obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art, who know that such buffers are intended for use in larger systems, the motivation simply being to obtain the benefits taught by each of the references.

6. Claims 14, 15, 17-20, 22, 23, 25 and 27 are allowed.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Note Fig. 4 of Sharp-Geisler.

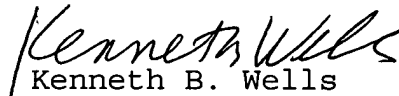
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth B. Wells whose telephone number is (571)272-1757. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan, can be reached at (571)272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval

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(PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Kenneth B. Wells  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2816

April 29, 2005